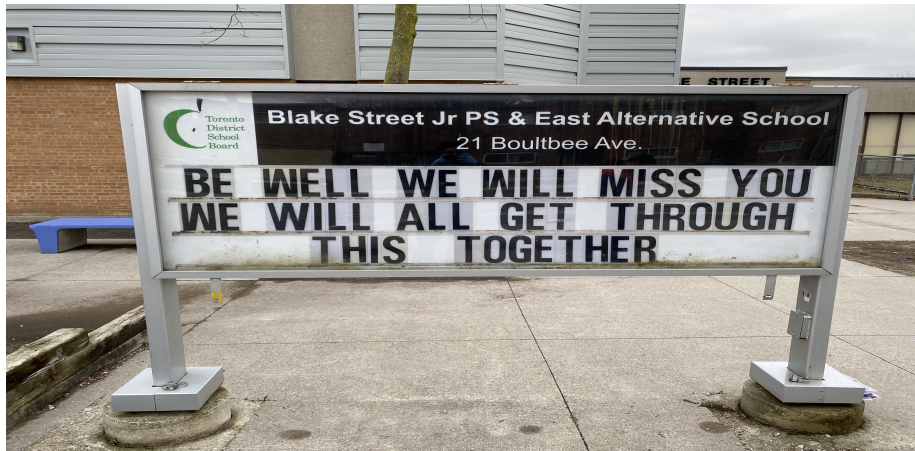


Blake News

The Newsletter of
 Blake Street Public School
 Phone: (416) 393-9415

Blake Street Public School
 21 Boulton Avenue, Toronto, ON M4J 1A7
Jennifer Zurba, Principal **Jackilyn Wallace**, Vice Principal
Mary Jane McNamara, Superintendent of Education **Jennifer Story**, School Trustee



Last week, the premier announced an extension on the possibility of a return to school date. At this point in time school will not resume until June 1st at the earliest. We expect ongoing updates in the weeks to come.

By now, most requests for technology have been delivered, or are in transit. If you have not yet received notification of the status of your request, please email me directly so I can ensure your request was received.

Music Monday

This Monday, May 4, thousands of children, youth, teachers, families and community members across Canada will be celebrating "Music Monday" from home. This event is organized by the Coalition for Music Education. According to their site, "Music Monday is one of the world's largest single events dedicated to raising awareness for music education. Each year, hundreds of thousands of students, educators, and music makers celebrate with events from coast to coast to coast, and participate in the collective singing of the Music Monday Anthem, an original song written by a Canadian artist. The 2020 anthem is the iconic "Hymn to Freedom," by Oscar Peterson and Hariette Hamilton, in a new bilingual translation. By raising our voices and instruments in support of Music Monday, we make a powerful statement to all Canadians about the importance of equitable access to quality music education for all students."

If your child is interested in participating in this national musical experience:

-watch the "Hymn to Freedom" on Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ztlR5spwmQ> (lyrics below) beforehand. This anthem is Oscar Peterson's "Hymn to Freedom," with lyrics by Hariette Hamilton. This song has a message of unity and equality, and it was the anthem of the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960's.

-watch the bilingual livestream from the National Arts Centre in Ottawa on Monday. You can watch through the coalitioncanada.ca website, or Youtube channel (Music Monday) anytime from 9am to 8:30pm to see live performances from across Canada. **The anthem will be played at 12:30

Music Monday Anthem 2019 Lyrics
Hymn to Freedom

Music by Oscar Peterson
Lyrics by Hariette Hamilton
French translation by Robert Filion and Yves Carrière

English Lyrics

When every heart
 Joins every heart
 And together yearns for liberty That's when we'll be free
 When every hand
 Joins every hand
 And together molds our destiny That's when we'll be free
 Any hour
 Any day
 The time soon will come When we will live in dignity That's when we'll be free
 When every voice
 Joins in our song
 And together singing harmony That's when we'll be free

French Lyrics

Quand tous les cœurs
 Unis en chœur
 Dans un vœu commun de liberté Donc, nous serons libres
 Tendons la main
 Vers notr' prochain
 Pour écrire ensemble notre destinée Donc, nous serons libres
 Très bientôt
 Je le vois
 Le jour sera là.
 Tous vivront dans la dignité Donc, nous serons libres
 Par l'unisson
 D'une chanson
 Dans un souffle de fraternité Donc, nous serons libres

Bilingual Lyrics

When every heart
 Joins every heart
 And together yearns for liberty That's when we'll be free
 Tendons la main
 Vers notr' prochain
 Pour écrire ensemble notre destinée Donc, nous serons libres
 Any hour
 Any day
 The time soon will come Tous vivront dans la dignité Donc, nous serons libres
 Par l'unisson
 D'une chanson
 And together singing harmony That's when we'll be free

Financial Support information

Last week, an email and a phone message were sent to all Blake families allowing you to complete a survey to access food cards. If you did not receive the email, you can access the link at: [complete the registration online](#)

If you require support completing this survey, please contact your child's teacher or reply to this email.

If you have not done so, I encourage you to apply for direct funding to offset the cost of buying materials to support your children's learning, while they practice self-isolation and physical distancing. Eligible parents will receive a one-time per child payment of:

- \$200 for children aged 0 to 12
- \$250 for children or youth aged 0 to 21 with special needs

This funding can help parents with the costs of work books, educational apps, educational subscription services, movies and other tools to support learning at home. To apply, please access the link below

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-support-families>

September Class Placement: Parent Input

At Blake Street Public School we follow a collaborative approach to student placement for the upcoming year. It is one that has input from these sources:

- sending and receiving teachers
- principal and office administrator
- support personnel

This month, several meetings will be devoted to student placement. During these meetings, the best possible educational experience for your child will be given the utmost consideration. Parent information shared throughout the year at parent/teacher conferences will be helpful as the Blake Street teachers discuss the student placement process and consider the following:

- balance of numbers in a class
- Ministry of Education primary class size caps
- ratio of males & females in a class
- balance of students' levels of English Language Proficiency
- balance of academic performance according to Ministry expectations
- consideration of possible negative peer influences
- social, emotional and physical needs of the student

While we try to accommodate parent suggestions, please understand that a great deal of professional time and consideration will be devoted to the student placement decision.

If there is information you feel should be considered by the committee regarding your child's placement, please submit it in writing as an email to me at Jennifer.zurba@tdsb.on.ca by **Monday May 11th, 2020**.

The 2020/2021 school year staff, teachers and their grades are not yet finalized. You will be notified of your child's classroom for 2020-2021 in September. Tentative class lists (first names only) will be posted on the exterior rear doors of the school on Labour Day weekend.

Your information/requests should indicate your child's needs and program preferences, as opposed to names of teachers. **No requests for individual teachers will be accommodated for the reasons mentioned above, along with the potential for staffing and class arrangement changes right up until the end of October.**

Our tentative approved staffing model (pending the possibility of a fall re-organization) for next year is below. A co-teaching model means that two teachers will share the same space. Note that due to limited room usage, there may be more co-teaching models than those listed below.

English:

FDK (with ECEs)

FDK (with ECEs)

FDK (no ECE, capped at 15 students)

Grade 1/2 and Grade 1/2 (co-teaching model)

Grade 2/3

Grade 3/4

Grade 4 am (co-teaching with Grade 5 am, and streamlines into Grade 4/5 pm)

Grade 5 am (co-teaching with Grade 4 am and streamlines into Grade 4/5 pm)

Grade 6

French:

SK FI (with ECEs)

SK FI (no ECE, capped at 15 students)

Grade 1

Grade 1 / 2 and Grade 1 / 2 (co-teaching model)
Grade 2/3
Grade 3/4
Grade 4/5
Grade 5/6

Prep subjects offered will include:

1.5 Physical Education / Health
0.5 Library
2 Special Education
1 Music
0.5 Drama
0.5 Core French

Have you moved? For those of you who have moved out of the Blake Street attendance area over the school year, your child has been permitted to complete their 2020 school year here at Blake. **For the 2020/2021 School Year you will need to register your child at his/her home school.**

Please help us with our placement meetings and enrolment by letting us know ASAP if your child WILL NOT be returning to Blake Street P.S. in September 2020.

Ways to Support

I have heard from a number of families about how they may be able to support our community during these times. A link was shared last week, allowing interested families the opportunity to donate directly to our nutrition program. These donations, shared with another school Bosley Real Estate also supports, go directly into providing food cards to our families in need. A big thank you to those who have donated. Please note that your donations have already supplied over \$1500 in gift cards directly to our families.

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/toronto-foundation-for-student-success/p2p/bosley-breakfast-for-kids/>

Extended Day Program

For families with children currently in EDP, their spots in the EDP program will naturally be extended. However, for families with new students registering, who need before and after care, registration is now open. This is a new registration process, and no student number is required. You can access the registration link at www.tdsb.on.ca/EDP

Please know that we are here to help however we can. If there is anything we can do to support you and your families, we are just an email away. You are now also able to leave a voice mail message on the Blake PS phone at 416-393-9415 and Ms. Scott will receive it automatically.

Should you have any questions or concerns with the content of this newsletter, or any other school related issues, please email me directly at jennifer.zurba@tdsb.on.ca

Be well and have a great weekend.

Jenn and Jackilyn